

SYSTEMS AND METHODS FOR PERFORMING AUTHORIZED INTERCEPT  
IN A SATELLITE-BASED COMMUNICATIONS SYSTEM

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Abstract of the Disclosure

Authorized intercepts of communications in a satellite communications system (10)  
10 are performed, according to which a law enforcement agency (LEA) can request the intercept  
of communications to and/or from subscriber units (SUs). In one embodiment, an LEA  
intercept request causes an intercept order for a particular target SU (420, FIG. 6) to be  
transmitted to one or more satellites (411-413, FIG. 6), where the intercept order is stored in  
an intercept table (410). Any communications traffic involving the target SU results in an  
15 intercept by a satellite, which routes a copy of the intercepted communications to the  
requesting LEA, either directly or via an associated intercept facility (426, FIG. 8).

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